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EDITORS
GABRIELLE LUU & AKY

2 Years Later

CHIRP

CHIRP

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER
CHATTER

HAHAHA!

WHAP!

CHATTER

CHATTER

THUD!

HEY HEY!

DID YOU
HEAR THE RUMOR?

OY, KAGUL!

IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THAT FAMOUS MASKED SWORDSMAN, I SAY IT'S ALL BULLSHIT!

NO,

APPARENTLY
IT'S TRUE!

AN ACQUAINTANCE OF MINE SUPPOSEDLY ONCE TEAMED WITH HIM.

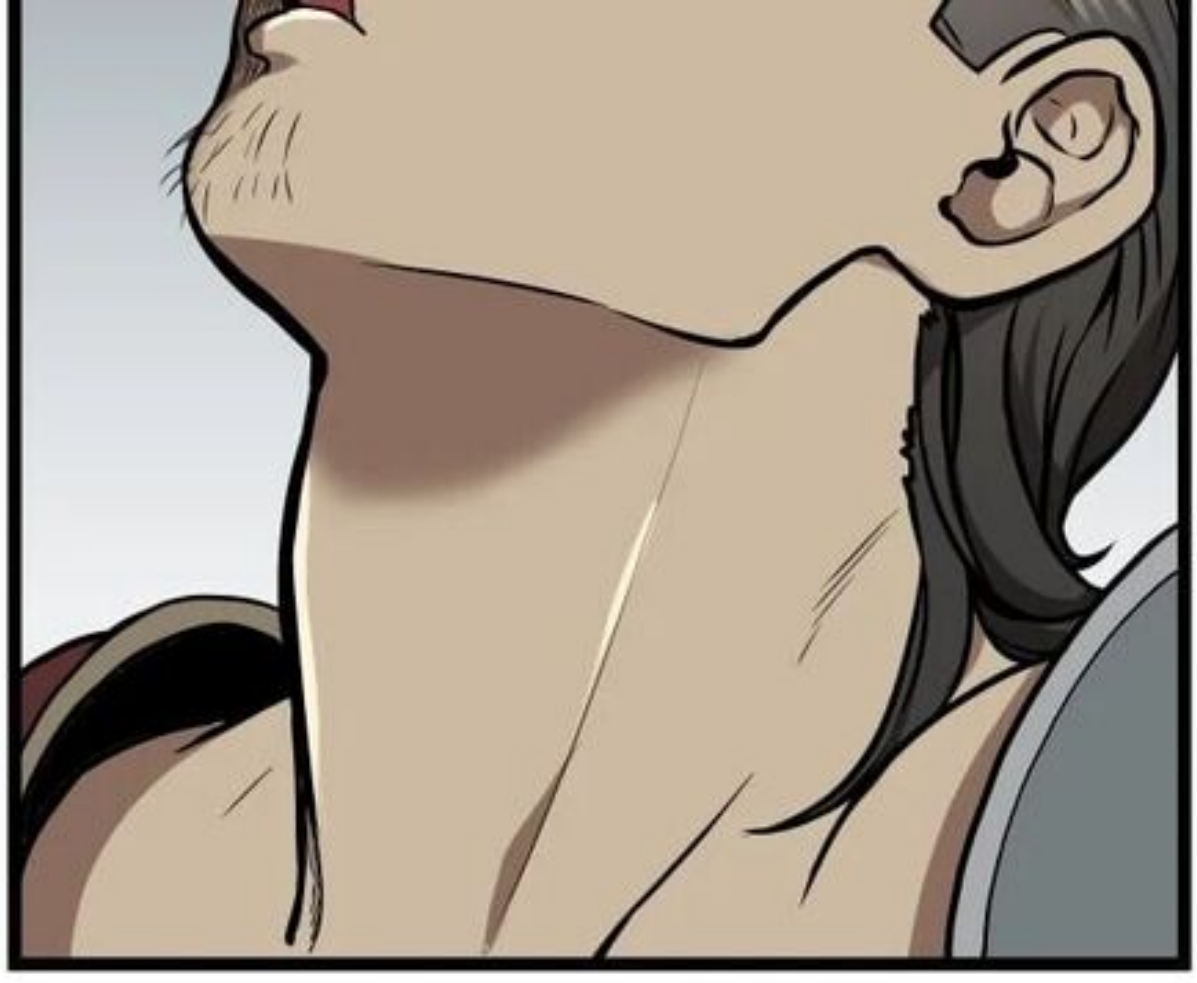
HE'S TRAVELING WITH JASMINE FLAMESWORTH AND HE'S PRETTY SHORT, SO IT'S HARD TO MISS HIM.

SO?
WHAT DID YOUR SO-CALLED 'ACQUAINTANCE' SAY ABOUT HIM?

I THINK
THE RUMORS ARE
TRUE.

HE'S NOT A MAGE.

BULL-



SHIT!
SPLAT

EITHER THAT "MASKED SWORDSMAN" IS AN AUGMENTER OR THE RUMORS ARE EXAGGERATED!
HERE
THANKS
HAVE YOU HEARD SOME OF THE STORIES GOING AROUND ABOUT HIM?

THERE WAS EVEN
A RUMOR THAT HE SOLO-CLEARED
A DUNGEON BY HIMSELF!

IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?!

SLASH

B-CLASS AUGMENTERS CAN'T DO THAT, EVEN IF IT'S A LOW-LEVEL DUNGEON,

AND YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE AN ORDINARY SWORDSMAN CAN?

YEAH,
I WOULD TAKE SOME OF THOSE RUMORS WITH A PINCH OF SALT.

REMEMBER THAT JASMINE FLAMESWORTH IS WITH HIM.

WAITRESS!!!

SHE PROBABLY HELPED HIM INSIDE, RIGHT?

RIGHT, RIGHT!

I'M TELLING YOU SKULLNUBS THAT SWORDSMAN'S PROBABLY NOT EVEN THAT STRONG.

HALF THOSE RUMORS ARE PROBABLY ABOUT FLAMESWORTH.

SOME HALF-WIT WARRIOR CALLING HIMSELF A SWORDSMAN?

BRING HIM HERE.
I'LL TAKE HIM ON ANY DAY--

WAITRESS!
WHERE'S MY DRINK?!

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE
HOW HOT OF A TOPIC THAT MASKED
SWORDSMAN IS THESE DAYS.

ACCORDING TO SOME STORIES,
HE WAS JASMINE FLAMESWORTH'S
APPRENTICE.

EVEN THAT WAS
FAR-FETCHED,

BUT THE MOST RIDICULOUS ONE WAS THAT...

NOT ONLY DID HE PLACE AT B-CLASS STRAIGHT OUT OF HIS RANK EXAM,

BUT HE RECENTLY MOVED UP TO A-CLASS!

GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP

CLACK!

IF THAT'S TRUE,
HE'D BE A-CLASS AFTER
ONLY TWO YEARS SINCE
STARTING HIS CAREER.

YET,

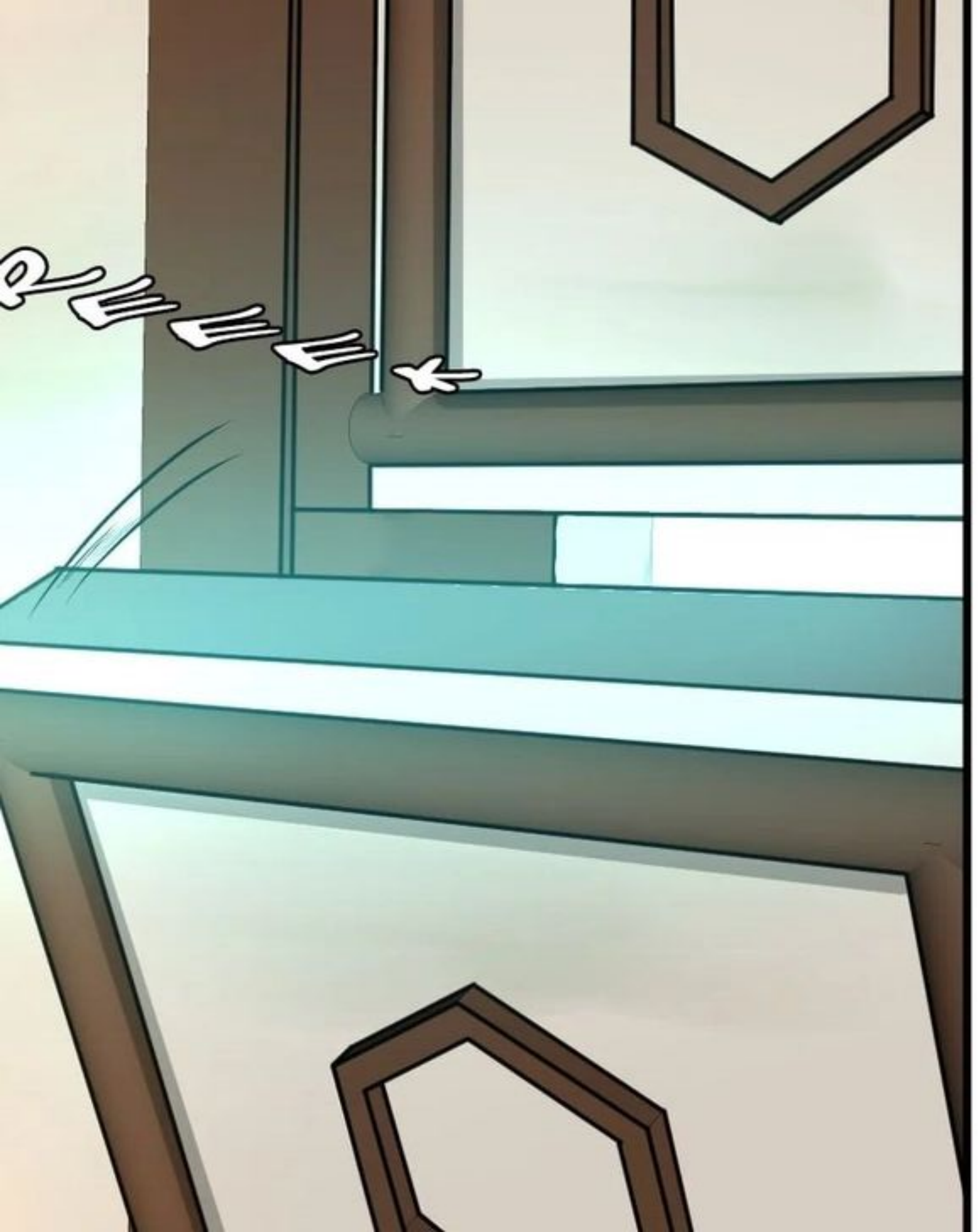
HERE I AM...

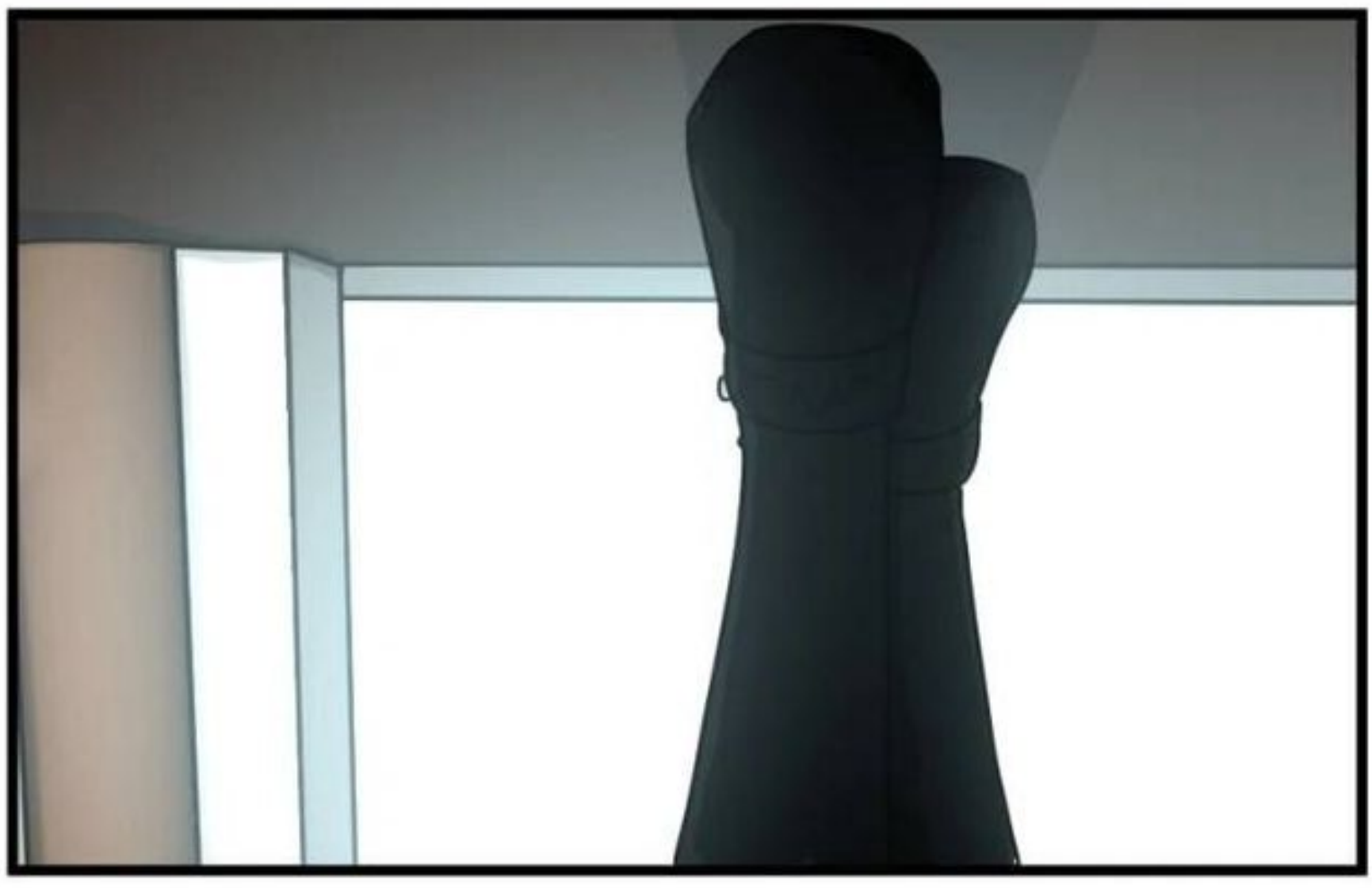
A BORDERLINE C-CLASS ADVENTURER WHO FAILED THE EXAM TO MOVE UP FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS.

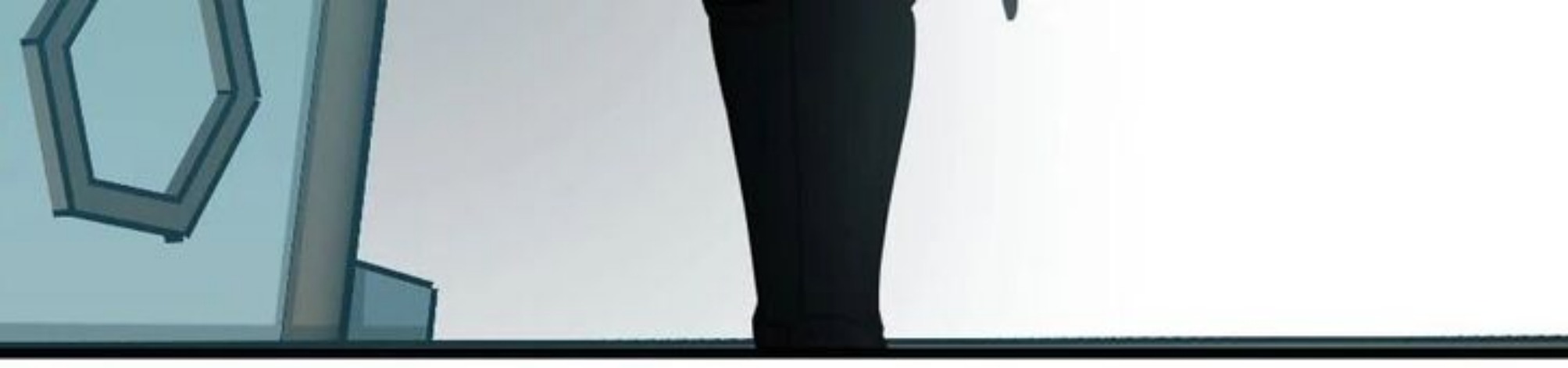
ALTHOUGH,
IT MAKES SENSE
THAT TURMAN
IS PISSED.

HE HIMSELF IS
A VETERAN B-CLASS
AUGMENTER
AFTER ALL.

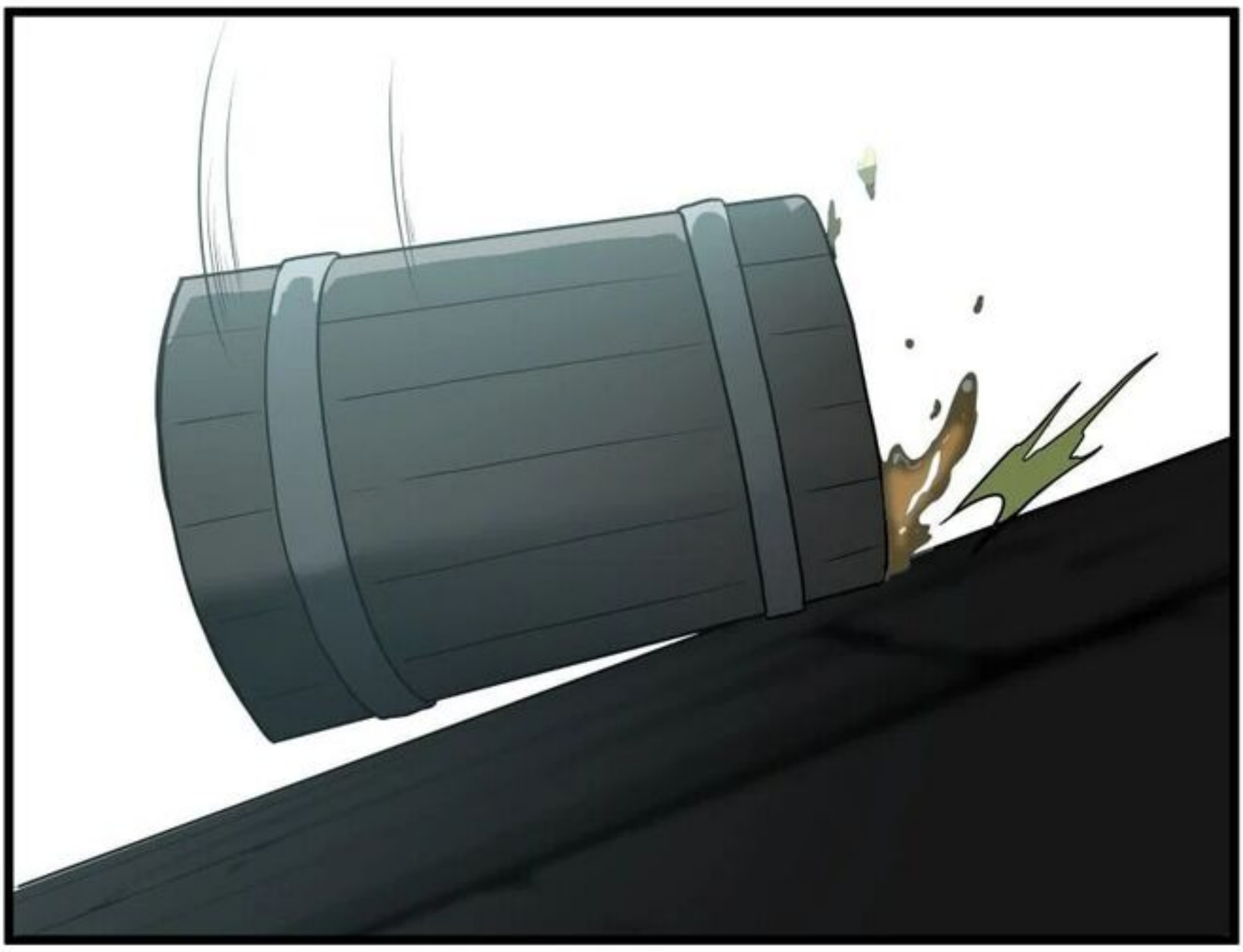
THAT MASKED SWORDSMAN MUST BE A PRETTY BIG SORE SPOT FOR THAT INFLATED PRIDE OF HIS.


PEEEK

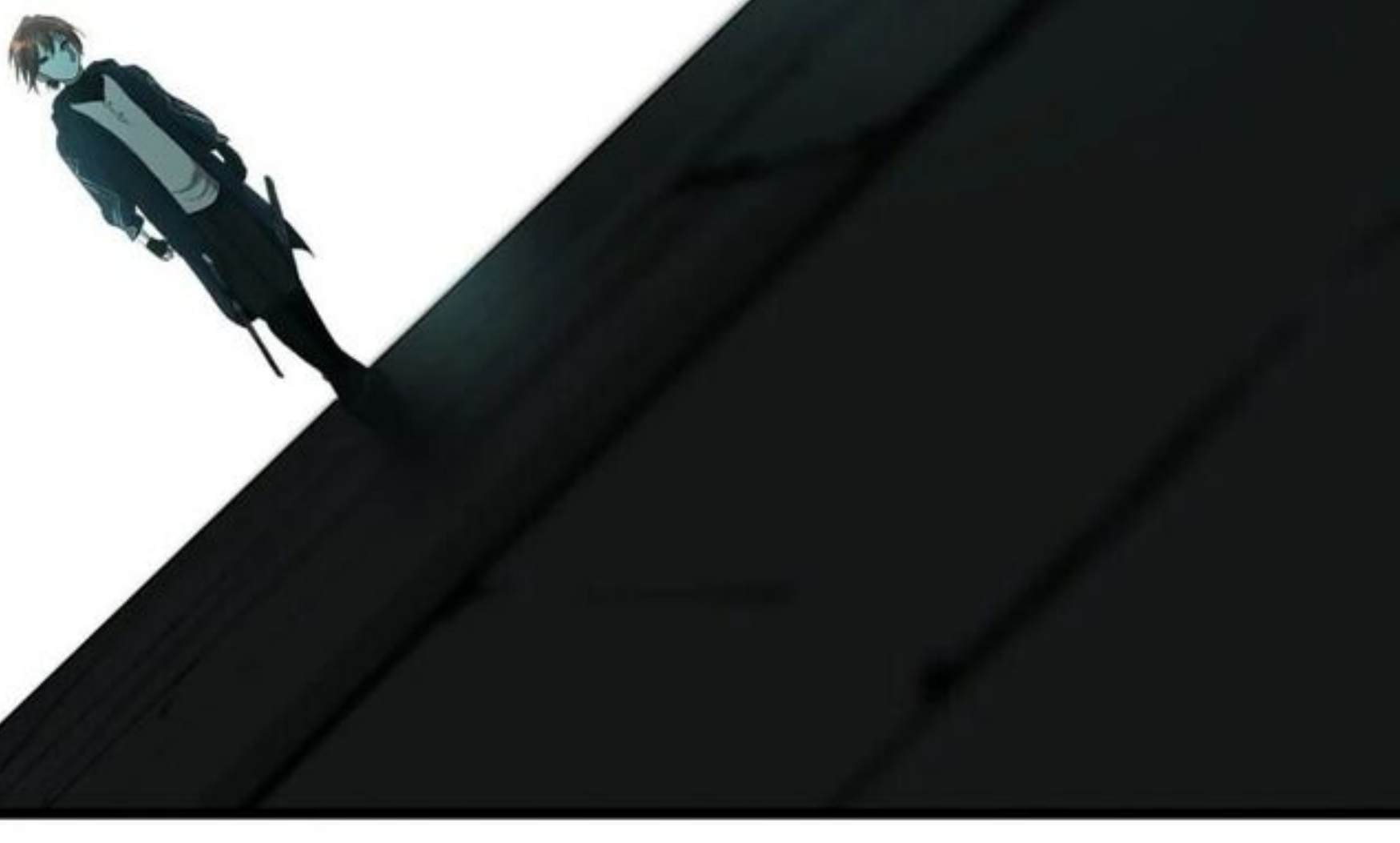




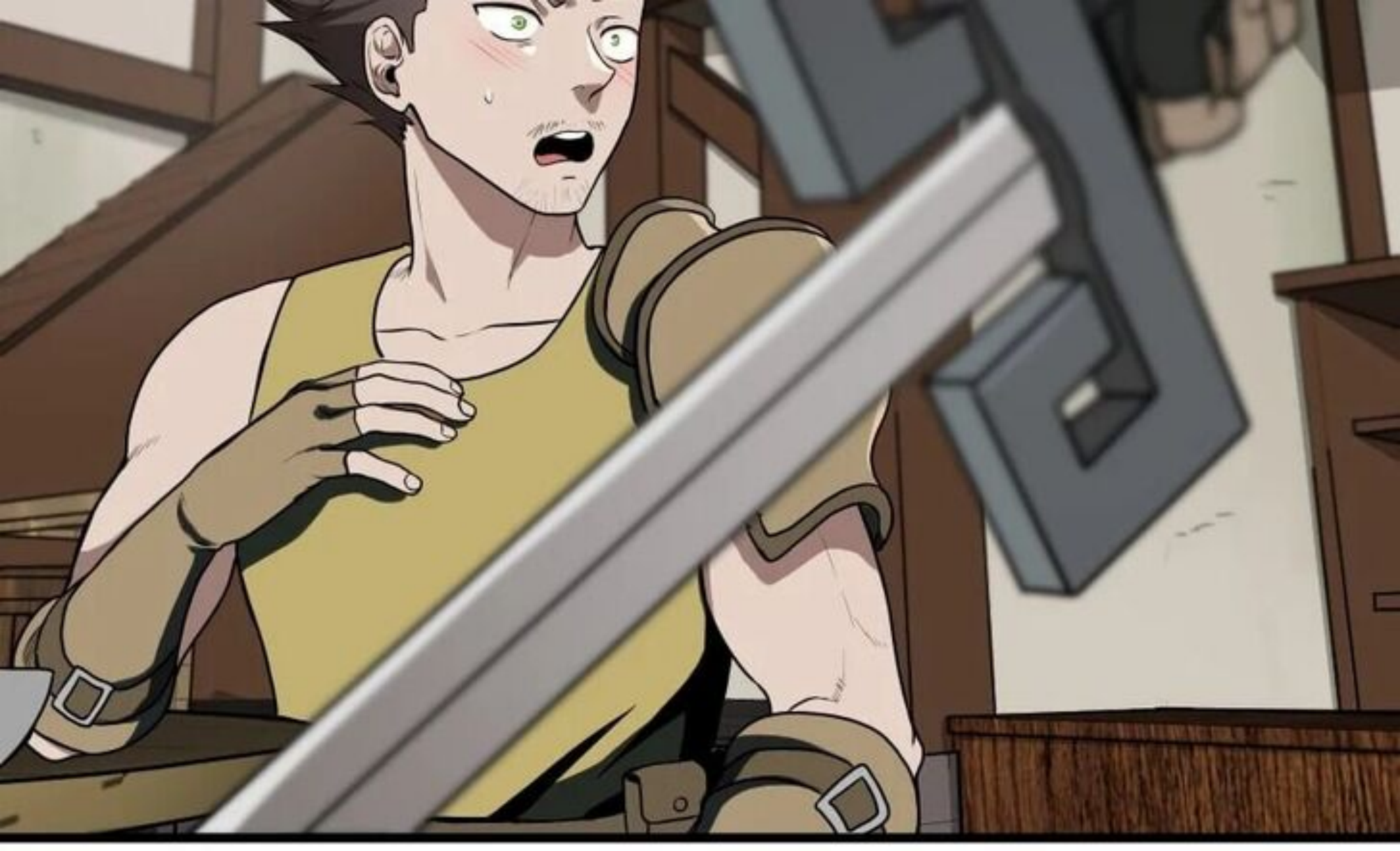
WELL,



SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.



IT'S THE WEE LITTLE SWORDSMAN EVERYONE'S CHATTERING ABOUT.



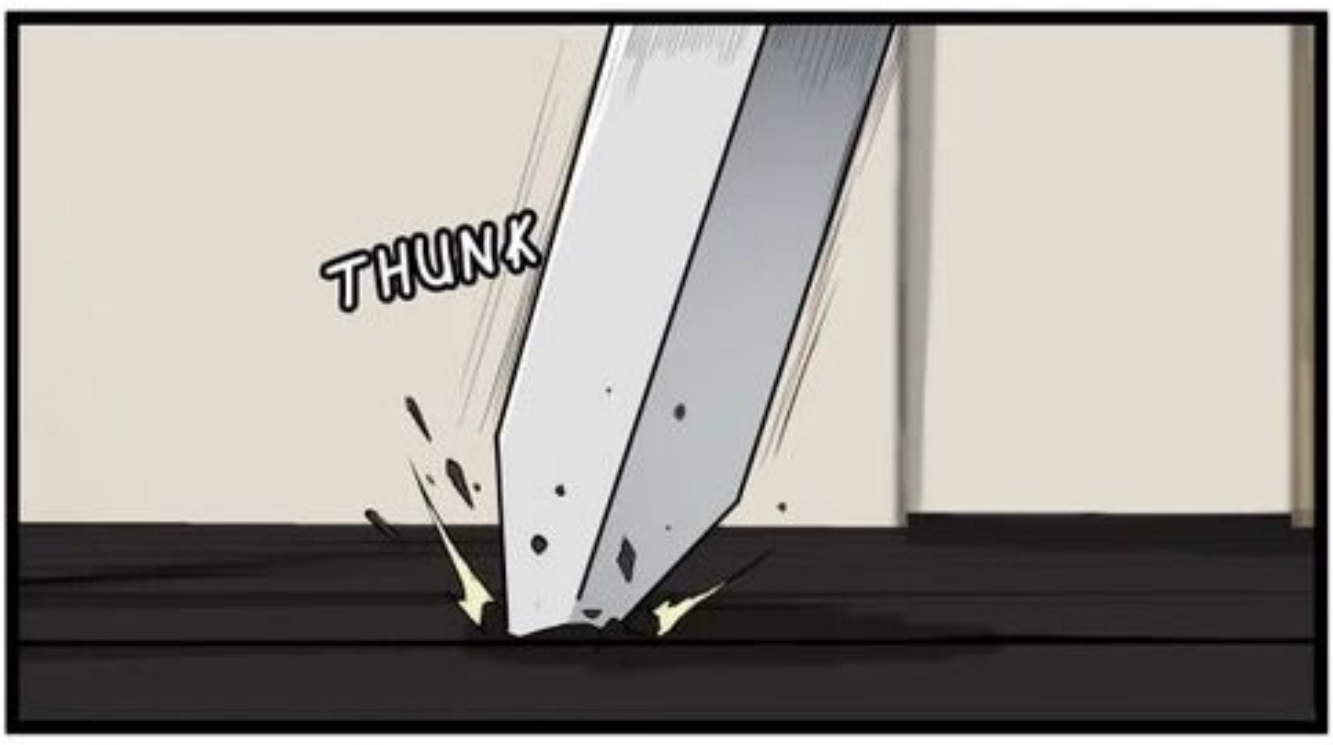
IT'S ACTUALLY THE MASKED SWORDSMAN--

THE ONE WE'D BEEN TALKING ABOUT,

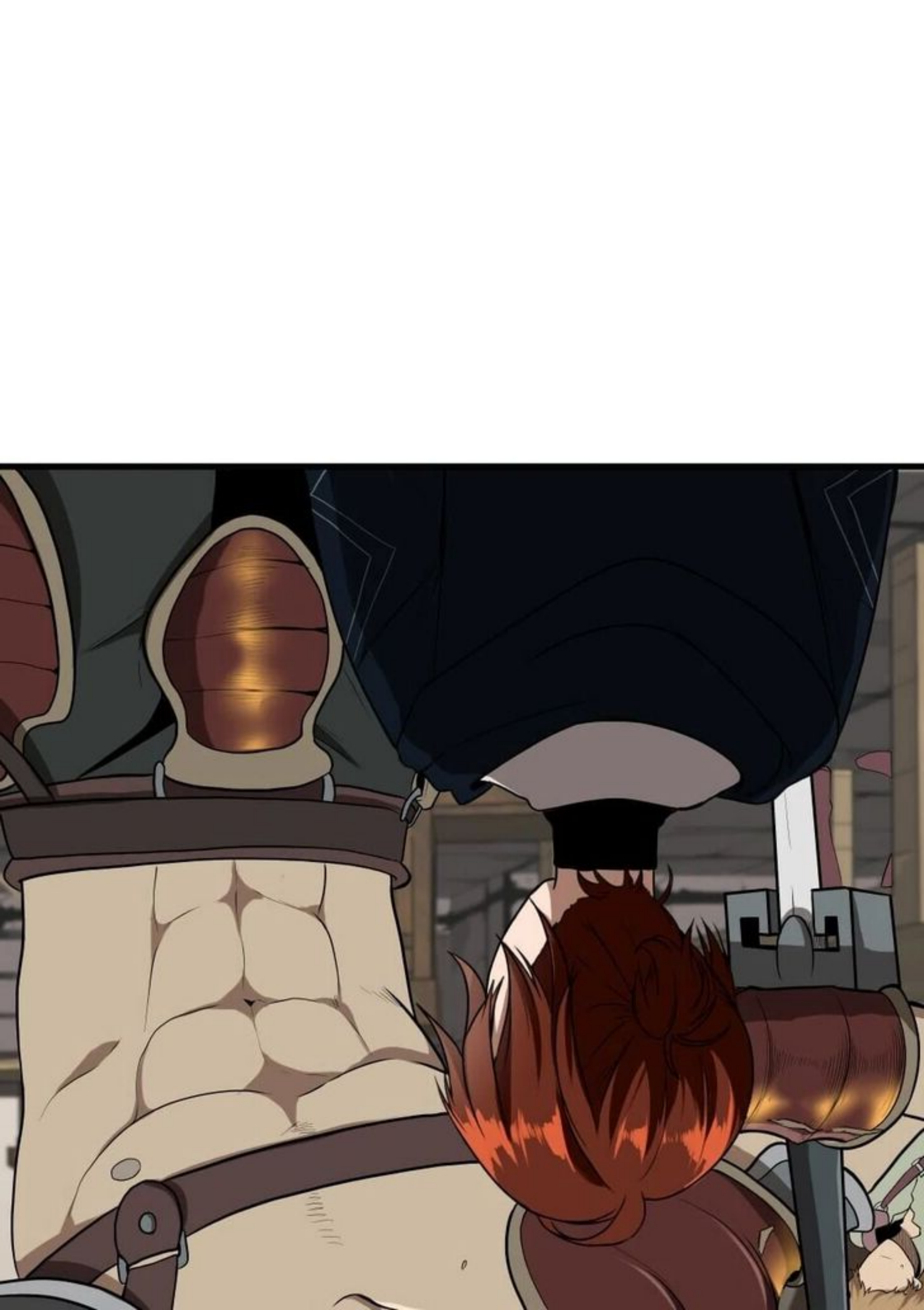
THE VERY CAUSE OF ALL THE CRAZY RUMORS--

HERE IN THE FLESH!

O-OY! TURMAN!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?!


THUNK

WHERE'S YOUR PRETTY LITTLE GUARDIAN?

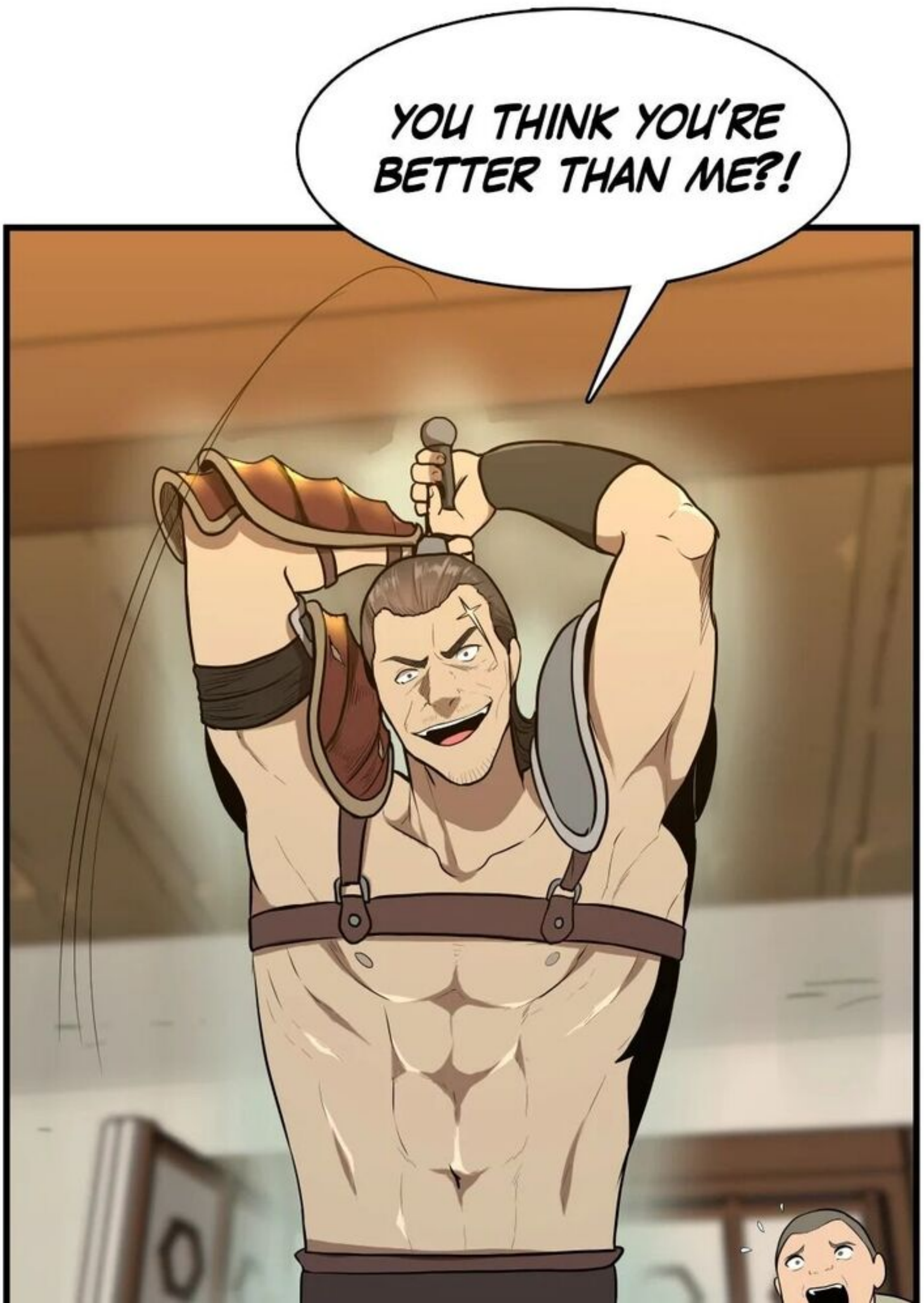


IS SHE OFF--

YOU BASTARD!
ARE YOU IGNORING ME?!

PFHAHA!

JUST BECAUSE YOU
GOT A BIT FAMOUS
FROM THOSE BULLSHIT
RUMORS


YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN ME?!

CALM DOWN!

YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO KILL ANYONE IN HERE!

SHOOO

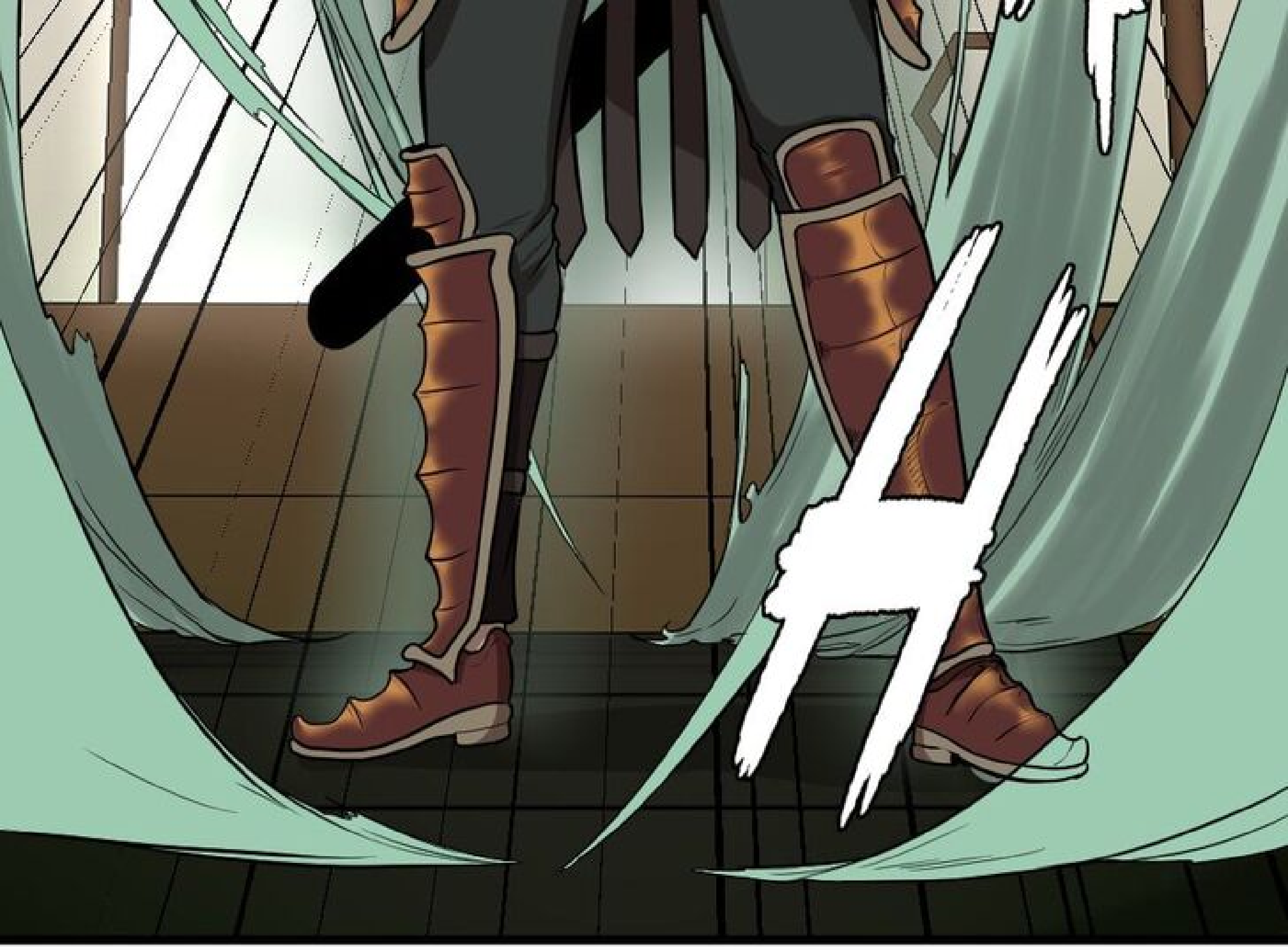
BAM

SHAAAAAAA

WHAT?

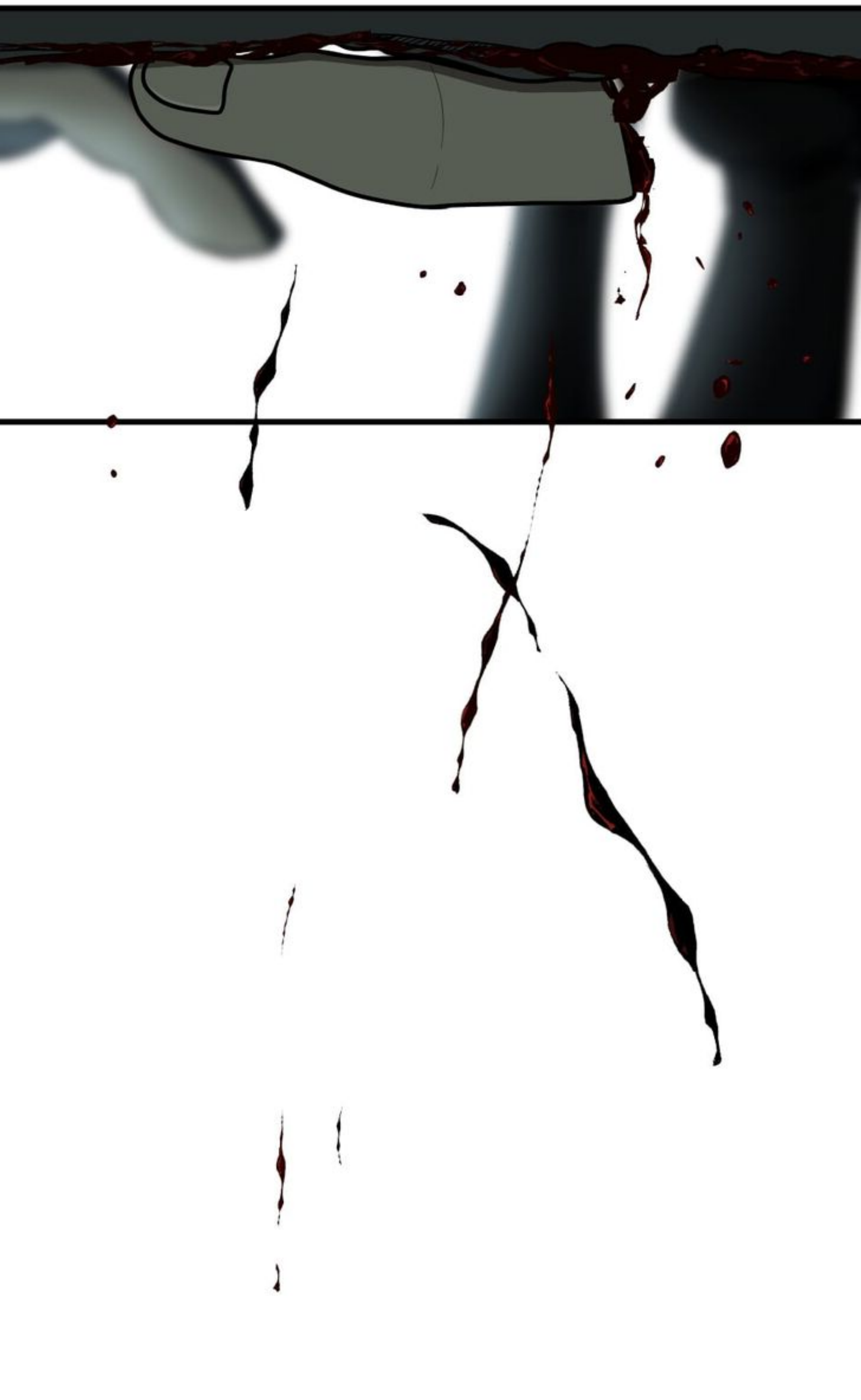
DID HE DODGE,
OR DID I MISS...?

GLARE



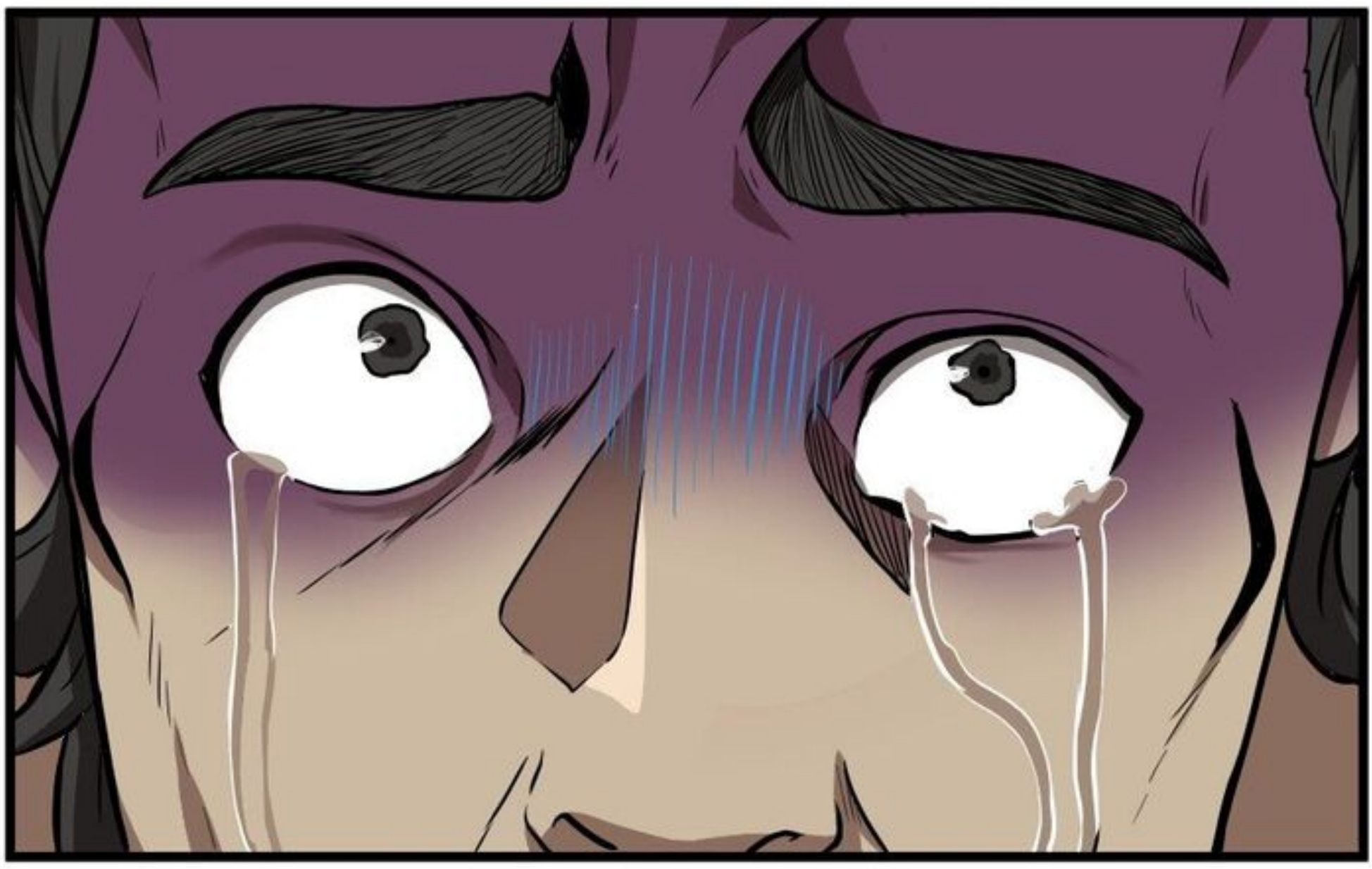
IS DODGING ALL YOU'VE GOT?!

تاخیر

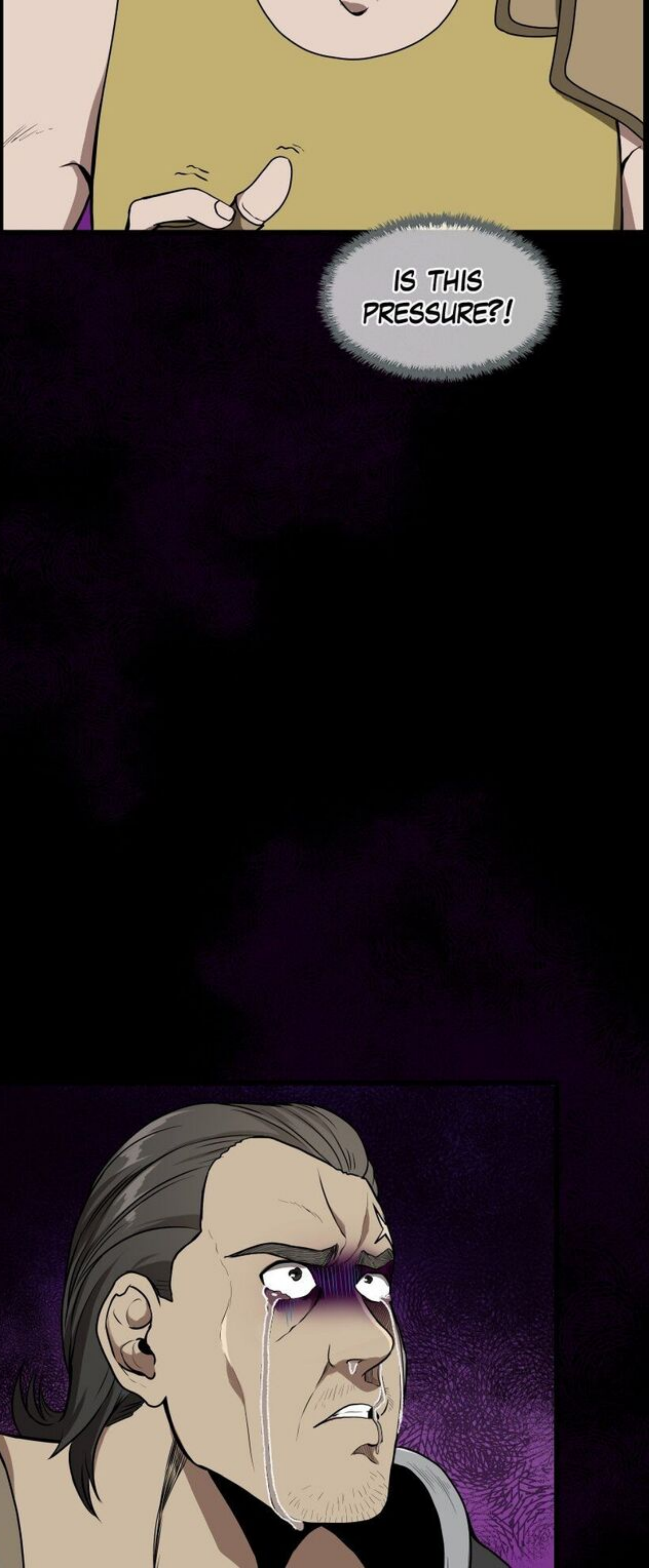


STEP

HOW
DARE--!

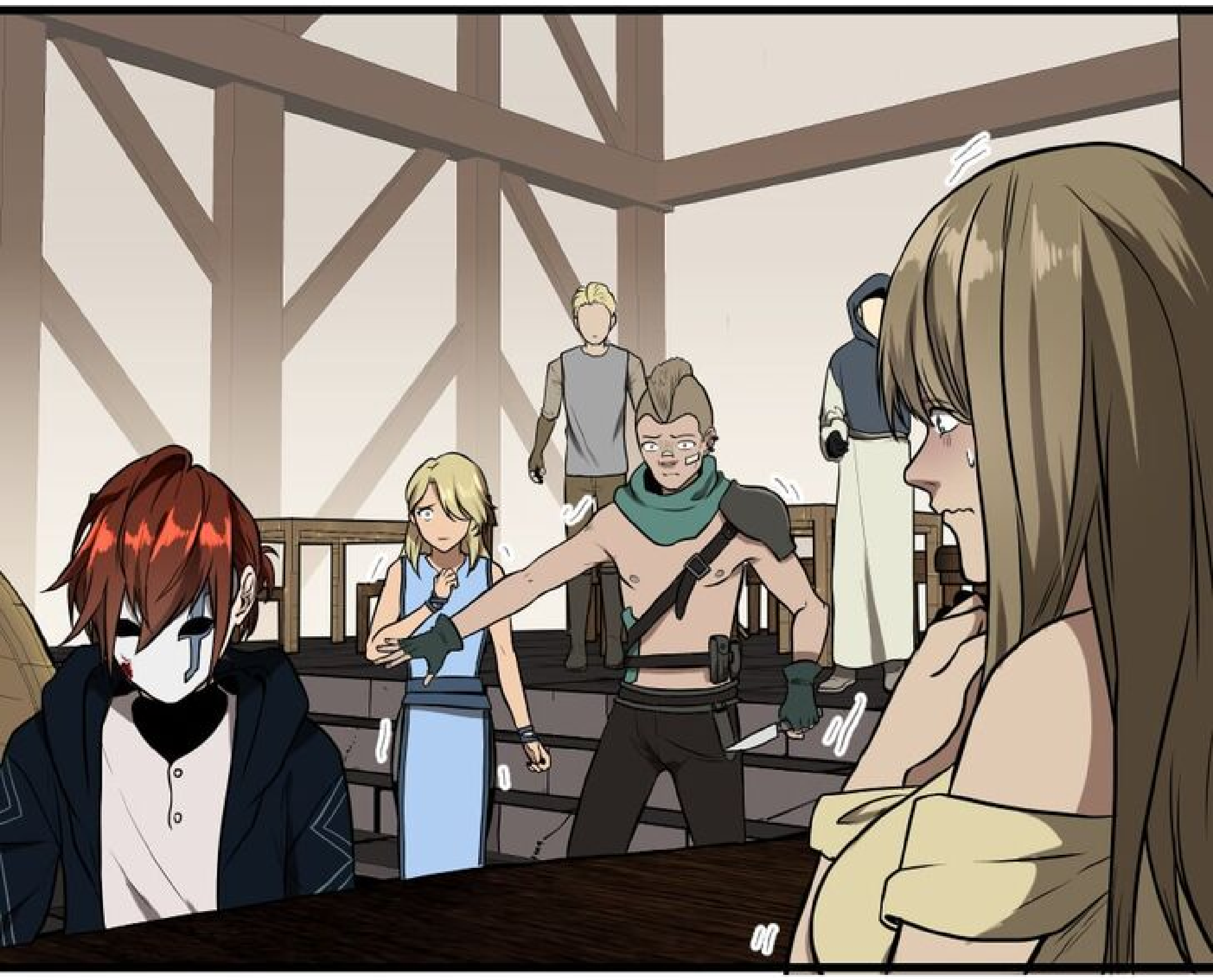


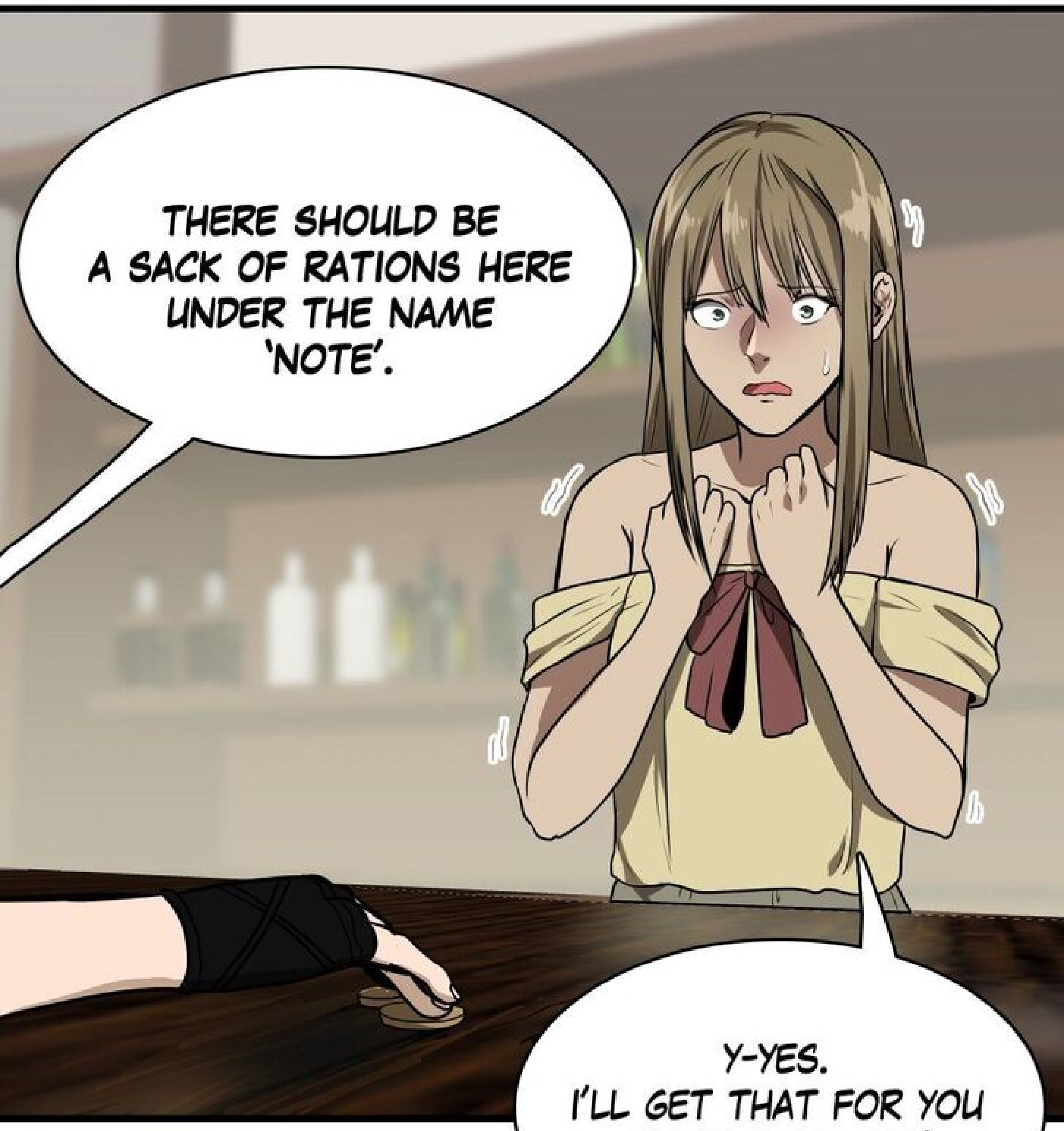
WHAT...


IS THIS PRESSURE?!

ARE YOU
DONE?

GET A BAG OF ICE FOR HIS FINGERS! WE CAN STILL REATTACH THEM WITH AN EMITTER!




THERE SHOULD BE A SACK OF RATIONS HERE UNDER THE NAME 'NOTE'.
Y-YES. I'LL GET THAT FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY, SIR!

WHAT TOOK YOU
SO LONG?

THE WAITRESS TOOK A WHILE TO FIND THE RATIONS.

WHY IS THERE BLOOD ON YOUR MASK THEN?

HMM?

AH...

THERE WAS NO PERMANENT DAMAGE DONE...